



### ***What is JPUSA?***

Jesus People USA is a Christian Intentional Community located in Uptown, Chicago. We are a product of the Jesus Movement of the 60's and 70's, and were first established in 1972. The years have brought about a lot of changes and what we look like today hardly seems to resemble the group of 20-ish born-again hippies traveling by bus across the country.

Today, there are around 250 community members. We are a church that lives together: families, single people, and empty nesters ranging in age from 0 to 80. JPUSA is a part of the Evangelical Covenant Church, and meets for worship, classes, and fellowship throughout the week. We operate several businesses to support ourselves financially: roofing supply, a music label, T-shirt printing, and a coffee shop to name a few. Our needs are met out of a common purse that is supported by these businesses. We also have a strong ministry emphasis on caring for the poor and homeless, having started Chicago's second-largest homeless shelter, Cornerstone Community Outreach (CCO). CCO houses around 300 people each night, providing three meals a day to residents and one meal a week to anyone in need off the streets.

### ***What should I expect from a trip to JPUSA?***

1. **Community life** You can expect a welcoming environment, living for a short time alongside people who, in many cases, have been living and doing ministry together for several decades. Most people who visit can expect an eye-opening experience: seeing life, worship, and ministry lived out in diverse ways.
2. **Ministry** You can expect to be introduced to concepts of poverty and homelessness within our country. You will meet people at CCO from all walks of life. You will get to see people who daily live ministry to the poor and needy around them.
3. **Leisure/Fun/Free time** JPUSA is situated about three blocks from Lake Michigan. Depending on the weather, you can expect chances to view the Lake or swim in it. Also, we are close to a number of ethnic restaurants and several different parts of Chicago's public transit system. One common activity is to take a partial or whole day to go around town and sight-see.

### ***How is a trip to JPUSA different from other trips?***

Living in community lends a different perspective on life, culture, and faith. During your visit, your group has an opportunity to live in a small community of its own in our group housing while participating in the larger community of JPUSA. During your time at CCO, we encourage groups to think of what it would feel like to be constantly on the receiving end with little opportunity to give back and to rethink ways that we can "consider others better than ourselves." We value art, culture, and music and challenge your group to think of ways to engage their generation with the Gospel by deciphering media messages to hear what people want and need.

Come and see for yourself! Leaders, you are welcome to come for a tour or a short (1-2 day) visit for free before you bring your group. Contact us for more details: [youthgroup@jpusa.org](mailto:youthgroup@jpusa.org) (331) 308-2757



## Mission Trip Waiver and Release Form

### Participating Organization

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Activity: Participating in the ongoing mission or charitable work of Jesus People USA Covenant Church, Jesus People, U.S.A., Full Gospel Ministries or Cornerstone Community Outreach ("Sponsors").

### Individual Participant Information

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian (if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ (eve): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Is coordinator or another adult on the trip authorized to approve medical treatment? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Is participant covered by personal/family medical insurance? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If Yes, name of Insurer: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy or Group# \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day): \_\_\_\_\_ (eve): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Individual Participant Agreement

- In consideration for the opportunity to participate in the work of the Sponsors, the Participant (or parent/guardian if Participant is a minor) acknowledges that missions work and transportation related to it has foreseen and unforeseen risks. By signing below and participating in the activity, Participant (or parent/guardian) acknowledges having obtained all information necessary to assess the risk and willingly participate, and assumes all such risks.
- To the fullest extent permitted by law, Participant, on behalf of Participant, his/her family, estate and each of such person's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, affiliates and assigns (together with Participant (or parent/guardian), the "Releasing Parties") fully, unconditionally and without reserve, release and forever discharge the Sponsors, their officers, directors, agents, employees, volunteers, affiliates and assigns (the "Released Parties") from any and all claims, demands, losses, costs, expenses, including attorneys' fees and expenses, obligations, liabilities, deficiencies or damages of every kind and nature whatsoever, known or unknown, now existing or that may arise in the future, which arise out of or are attributable to or in any way based upon or related to Participant's involvement in the work of the Sponsors. I UNDERSTAND AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE CLAIMS BEING RELEASED HEREUNDER INCLUDE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, CLAIMS, IF ANY, BASED UPON OR ANYWAY RELATED TO THE NEGLIGENCE OF JESUS PEOPLE USA COVENANT CHURCH, JESUS PEOPLE, U.S.A., FULL GOSPEL MINISTRIES, CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY OUTREACH OR ANY OF THE RELEASED PARTIES.
- Participant (or parents/guardians) accepts personal financial responsibility for any injury or loss sustained during the activity or during the transportation to and from the activity from any cause, and will indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any and all costs, liabilities, expenses, including attorneys' fees and expenses, damages, claims, losses and actions arising out of any matter released or purported to be released by the Releasing Parties, even if arising from the sole or contributory negligence of any of the Released Parties.
- The mission of the Sponsors is to glorify Christ in Chicago and around the world by meeting spiritual, physical, emotional and educational needs. By signing below, Participant understands and agrees with this mission, and indicates a willingness to be led by the Sponsors and to abide by their rules and policies.
- Participant (or parent/guardian) agrees that all disputes arising from or related to this agreement will be resolved through a mutually acceptable alternative dispute resolution process, or, if no such process is agreed upon, the dispute shall be submitted to a three-member panel of the American Arbitration Association for final resolution.
- This agreement shall be governed by the law of the State of Illinois. If any part of this Agreement is found to have no legal validity, the remainder shall continue in full force and effect.

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Things you should bring on your trip:

### **Open Eyes**

- If you don't decide ahead of time to pay attention to what is around you, you may very well miss something amazing or important.

### **Open Mind**

- You will probably see things you will not, at first, expect, or understand. Prepare to process and ask questions!

### **Open Heart**

- There will be times when it feels like you cannot deal with the emotional impact of what you are experiencing. Those are exactly the times when God is working in you!

## **Clothing**

- Bring enough clothing for your entire stay (assume you will not be doing laundry)
- It's OK to wear things more than once
- Please, for your own sake, and that of the people to whom you will minister, dress modestly. Ask your group's leader for definition
- Don't bring anything you can't handle either losing or ruining (stains, rips, paint, etc.)
- You will not need dress clothes (even for church on Sunday)
- Don't forget your swimsuit (Summer)
- You will probably want clothes specifically for painting, as this is a common activity
- Closed-toed shoes for work times

## **Toiletries**

- Toilet paper is provided, but you should bring everything else you will need, including a towel and washcloth

## **Bedding**

- Mattresses are provided, but you should bring either sheets and a blanket or a sleeping bag, as well as your own pillow

## **Miscellaneous**

- Bible
- Book(s)
- Journaling Supplies
- Games (optional)
  - We do have some games in the dorm here, but feel free to bring your own if you have a favorite that you would like to share with your group
  - You could even bring a game and leave it here for the next group to enjoy (completely optional)

## **For free time only**

- Cell phones
  - They are to be left in the dorm when we go to work, so that you don't lose them or have them stolen
- Camera
  - One or more of your leaders should have them along to take pics
  - They are to be left in the dorm when we go to work, so that you don't lose them or have them stolen